

The Court Report

2nd Police District

July/August 2006

Building Safer Neighborhoods Through Community Partnership

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Summary of Recent Court Cases

Ryan Newman, 17, arrested on August 7, 2006, participated in the robberies on the National Mall. Newman has been charged as adult.

Jerrold Vincent, 47, has been sentenced to more than 43 years in prison for the brutal fatal stabbing of his ex-girlfriend.

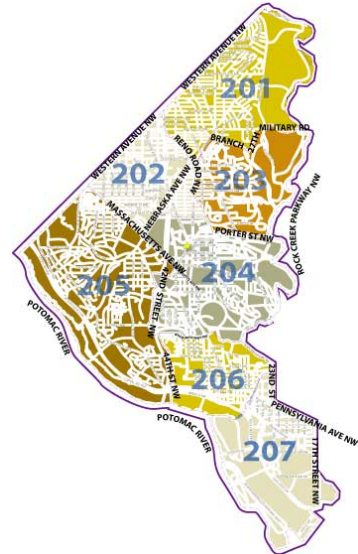
Michael Bright, 16, pleaded guilty to one count of armed robbery and one count of conspiracy to commit armed robbery, for his participation in the May 27, 2006, armed robbery on the National Mall.

Marcus Brown, 22, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit armed robbery, two counts of armed robbery, one of possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime of violence, and one count of assault with a dangerous weapon for his participation in the two armed robberies on the National Mall on May 25, 2006.

James A. Dorsey, has been sentenced to serve 14 years in prison for the brutal attack and robbery of an elderly vendor in the Foggy Bottom area of Washington, D.C.

A detailed descriptions of these and other cases from the 2nd District are provided inside of this report.

The 2nd Police District



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2nd District Community Prosecution Update

Just two months after D.C. Police Chief Charles H. Ramsey declared a Crime Emergency, the city is beginning to see a drop in crime. Much of this drop can be attributed to the dedication of both MPD and other criminal justice agencies; however, when the crime emergency is over, citizens and community members can continue in supporting this downward crime trend. A vigilant community, aware of both neighbors and activities, serves as a necessary force in the reduction of crime. Citizens can take simple steps to decrease criminal activity in neighborhoods: turning on porch lights, getting to know neighbors, documenting suspicious activity and reporting it, monitoring whereabouts of their children and teens, and most importantly, opening communication amongst members in the community. These steps will continue the work that already has begun, making each community a safer place to live. To increase your awareness with law enforcement, call your Community Prosecutor or your Community Outreach Specialist.

The COURT REPORT

Defendant Ryan Newman, 17, of the 1300 block of 5th St NW., Washington, D.C., arrested on August 7, 2006, participated in the robberies on the National Mall. Newman has been charged as adult. (Case No. 2006CF3015938; PSA 104)

FACTS: Following an intensive investigation conducted by the U.S. Park Police and the U.S. Attorney's Office and assisted by the U.S. Marshals Service, the U.S. Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Prince George's County Police Department, the Metro Transit Police Department and the Metropolitan Police Department, U.S. Park Police officers have taken into custody five individuals who played various roles in a series of brutal armed robberies and sexual assaults, which began on May 25, 2006 and ended on July 11, 2006. One of the robberies included the violent rape of a 17-year-old girl on May 27, 2006. Beginning on July 28, 2006, U.S. Park Police began rounding up the suspects when they arrested Zachary Bright, 19, of the 4400 block of G Street, SE, Washington, D.C., Ryan Newman, 17, of the 1300 block of 5th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. and Trayvon M. Thomas, 18, of the 1300 block of Orren Street, NE, Washington, D.C. A fourth defendant, Michael Bright, 16, of the 4400 block of Meade Street, NE, Washington, D.C., was arrested on August 4, 2006, and the last individual, Marcus Brown, 22, of the 5000 block of Hanna Place, SE, Washington, D.C., was arrested on Monday, August 7, 2006. Newman and Michael Bright have been charged as adults.

Based upon the investigation at this point, it is believed these five defendants are all of the individuals who participated in the robberies on the National Mall on the nights of May 25, 27, and July 11, 2006. Three other individuals have also been arrested in connection with the use of credit cards stolen during the robberies.

"In May and July of this year, twelve of our fellow citizens strolled down to the National Mall, expecting to experience the beauty and majesty of the monuments. Instead, they fell victim to a group of young predators who were stalking, robbing and brutalizing unsuspecting tourists at gunpoint," stated U.S. Attorney Kenneth L. Wainstein. "Thanks to the strong efforts of the U.S. Park Police and our law enforcement partners, those criminals are now behind bars where they can no longer violate the sanctity of the National Mall or the rights and well-being of those who visit."

Chief Dwight E. Pettiford stated, "The U.S. Park Police takes great pride in our protection of the National Mall. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize our Detectives and the U.S. Attorney's Office who worked relentlessly to bring closure to the violent crimes that occurred on the Nation's Mall. They persevered through countless hours of investigative work, interviewed multiple victims from various parts of the country, and brought closure to these cases. Our Criminal Investigations Branch has apprehended eight individuals who are connected to these crimes."

The five incidents that occurred on the National Mall are the following:

1. On Thursday, May 25, 2006, between 10:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., a male and female couple were taking a walk on the Mall between 9th & 12th Streets, NW, when they were approached by three young males, one armed with a gun. The victims were ordered to the ground at gunpoint and searched for money and valuables. Items taken from the victims included cash, a cell phone and a wallet containing credit and ATM cards. One of the perpetrators committed a forceful sexual touching of the female victim.

2. On May 25, 2006, minutes after the first robbery, another male and female couple also were taking a walk on the Mall between 9th and 12th Streets, NW, when they were approached by three young males, one armed with a gun, and ordered to the ground and searched for money and valuables. Items taken from the victim included cash, a cell phone and a wallet containing credit and ATM cards. As in the first incident, one of the perpetrators committed a forceful sexual touching of the female victim. She also was kicked in the head by one of the suspects when she resisted.

3. On Saturday, May 27, 2006, between 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m., a male and female walking together on the Mall were approached by three young males, one armed with a gun. A jacket, wallet, cash and credit cards were taken from the male victim, and his pants pockets were searched. Items and cash were also taken from the female victim, who was taken by the armed suspect to a grassy area of the Mall, where she was raped by the armed suspect at gunpoint, who also forced her to commit oral sodomy on him and a second male. The second suspect had just punched and kicked the male victim before joining the armed suspect in the sexual assault.

4. On Tuesday, July 11, 2006, at approximately 10:00 p.m., two female victims were approached by two young males and robbed of their cell phones and cash on the grounds of the Washington Monument. During the robbery, one of the perpetrators committed a forceful sexual touching of one of the female victims.

5. On Tuesday, July 11, 2006, between 10:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., a family of four, two parents and their two children, ages 9 and 15, were walking on the Mall near the Washington Monument when they were approached by two males, one armed with a gun. The victims were forced to the ground at gunpoint, whereupon they were robbed of cash and a camera.

Working methodically and following up on leads arising from an analysis of records from the stolen credit cards and a cell phone, interviews with witnesses and the execution of more than a dozen search warrants, the investigators identified and arrested the five defendants and charged them with the following offenses:

1. Ryan Newman and Zachary Bright have been charged with the July 11, 2006, robbery of the two female victims on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

2. Marcus Brown has been charged with one of the May 25, 2006, robberies on the National Mall.

3. Michael Bright has been charged in connection with the May 27, 2006, robbery on the National Mall.

Travyon Thomas was initially arrested by the U.S. Park Police on July 28, 2006, and charged with Assault with Dangerous Weapon in connection with an unrelated assault that occurred on June 7, 2006. He then pled guilty on August 7, 2006, before the Honorable Hiram Puig-Lugo in D.C. Superior Court in connection with that unrelated assault as well as his role in the National Mall robberies. Specifically, Thomas pled guilty to three counts of robbery, those being the two that occurred on May 25, 2006, and the May 27, 2006 robbery; two counts of possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime of violence; conspiracy to commit robbery; first degree sexual abuse in relation to the rape that occurred during the May 27, 2006 robbery; and assault with a dangerous weapon in connection with the unrelated assault on June 7, 2006. He faces a maximum of up to 120 years in prison under the statute and as much as 57 years in prison under the sentencing guidelines. A sentencing date has not yet been set.

Three other individuals, Tarnell Ward, 21, of the 4700 block of the Benning Road, SE, Washington, D.C., Joshua Thomas, 24, and Joseph Williams, 19, both of the 200 block of 47th Street, NE, Washington, D.C., also have been arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit theft in the first degree in connection with the use of some of the credit cards stolen during the robberies.

Defendant Michael Bright, 16 of the 4400 block of Lee Street, NE, Washington, D.C. pleaded guilty in D.C. Superior Court before the Honorable Hiram Puig-Lugo to one count of armed robbery and one count of conspiracy to commit armed robbery, for his participation in the May 27, 2006, armed robbery on the National Mall. When he is sentenced, he will face a maximum possible sentence of 35 years of incarceration under the statute, and up to 112 months under the voluntary sentencing guidelines.

Defendant Marcus Brown, 22 of the 5000 block of Hannah Place, SE, Washington, D.C. pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit armed robbery, two counts of armed robbery, one of possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime of violence, and one count of assault with a dangerous weapon for his participation in the two armed robberies on the National Mall on May 25, 2006. When he is sentenced, he will face a maximum possible sentence of 90 years of incarceration under the statute, and up to 324 months of incarceration under the voluntary sentencing guidelines. A third defendant, Trayvon M. Thomas, 18, of the 1300 block of Orren Street, NE, Washington, D.C., pled guilty last week in connection with his role in the robberies and sexual assaults. (Case No. 2006CF3006265; PSA 105)

The five incidents that occurred on the National Mall are the following:

1. On Thursday, May 25, 2006, between 10:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., a male and female couple were taking a walk on the Mall between 9th & 12th Streets, NW, to see the monuments when they were approached by three young males, one armed with a gun. The victims were ordered to the ground at gunpoint and searched for money and valuables. Items taken from the victims included cash, a cell phone and a wallet containing credit and ATM cards. One of the perpetrators committed a forceful sexual touching of the female victim.

2. On May 25, 2006, minutes after the first robbery, another male and female couple also were taking a walk on the Mall between 9th and 12th Streets, NW, when they were approached by three young males, one armed with a gun, and ordered to the ground and searched for money and valuables. Items taken from the victim included cash, a cell phone and a wallet containing credit and ATM cards. As in the first incident, one of the perpetrators committed a forceful sexual touching of the female victim. She also was kicked in the head by one of the suspects when she resisted.

3. On Saturday, May 27, 2006, between 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m., a male and female walking together on the Mall were approached by three young males, one armed with gun. A jacket, wallet, cash and credit cards were taken from the male victim, and his pants pockets were searched. Items and cash were also taken from the female victim, who was taken by the armed suspect to a grassy area of the Mall, where she was raped by the armed suspect, who also forced her to commit oral sodomy on him and a second male. The second suspect had just punched and kicked the male victim before joining the armed suspect in the sexual assault.

4. On Tuesday, July 11, 2006, at approximately 10:00 p.m., two female victims were approached by two young males and robbed of their cell phones and cash on the grounds of the Washington Monument. One of the perpetrators committed a forceful sexual touching of one of the female victims during the robbery.

5. On Tuesday, July 11, 2006, between 10:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., a family of four were walking on the Mall near the Washington Monument when they were approached by two males, one armed with a gun. The victims were forced to the ground, whereupon they were robbed of cash and a camera.

A 34-year-old Memphis, Tennessee man, Barron Lewis, also known as Clemente Butts, has been sentenced to serve 20 months in prison for pandering a 17-year-old girl and a 23-year-old woman, U.S. Attorney Kenneth L. Wainstein announced today.

Lewis, who pled guilty in June 2006, was sentenced yesterday by the Honorable Herbert B. Dixon, Jr. of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia. The 20-month term is at the top of the D.C. Superior Court's voluntary sentencing guidelines range for this offense.

During the previous plea hearing, Lewis admitted that he and his co-defendant, Earnestine Lucas, of Fort Valley, Georgia, worked together to recruit and train a 17-year-old girl and a 23-year-old woman for prostitution, and to transport them from Richmond, Virginia to Washington, D.C., so that they could earn money through prostitution. Lewis had been the pimp to Lucas for over two years, and as a result, Lewis designated Lucas to be his "bottom b**ch," in other words, his most trusted prostitute. Lucas has Lewis' street name, "Cowboy," tattooed on her neck to show that Lewis is her pimp, and that Lucas belongs to Lewis.

Between November 9, 2005 and November 14, 2005, Lewis and Lucas met the 17-year-old and the 23-year-old in Richmond by pretending that they wanted to be shown around town.

Once the juvenile and her older friend got into Lewis' car, Lewis drove them out of Richmond. After leaving the city, Lewis told the Richmond natives that they would be working for him as his prostitutes. Lucas began training the new recruits, telling them how to solicit "dates" and how much to charge for various sex acts. Lewis provided prostitute clothes, condoms, and motel rooms for his prostitutes. Lewis told the juvenile to pretend that she was an 18-year-old adult, even though she was only 17 years old.

Lewis and Lucas took the two recruits from Richmond to Washington, D.C., where they solicited customers and performed sex acts for money. Lewis collected the money earned by his prostitutes, and provided for the needs of the prostitutes as he saw fit. Lewis and Lucas monitored the activities of the recruits while on the prostitution "track" by communicating with them by walkie-talkie and by cell phone. Lewis choked the 23-year-old woman when she said that she wanted to go back home.

The 17-year-old was eventually arrested by police in Washington, D.C. for soliciting an undercover police officer. The 23-year-old woman remained with Lewis and Lucas until she could convince the defendants to take her back to Richmond.

Lewis's co-defendant, Ernestine Lucas, has also pled guilty to pandering and is scheduled to be sentenced on September 8, 2006.

Subsequent to their guilty pleas, legislation enacted by the District of Columbia City Council, the Omnibus Public Safety Emergency Amendment Act of 2006, amended the Pandering statute by providing for a 20-year maximum jail sentence when the victim is under 18 years of age. Prior to the amendment, Pandering carried a maximum five-year jail sentence, regardless of the age of the victim. The new legislation should serve to deter, with more severe penalties, the placing of minors into prostitution.

Defendant James A. Dorsey, a Northeast District of Columbia man, has been sentenced to serve 14 years in prison for the brutal attack and robbery of an elderly vendor in the Foggy Bottom area of Washington, D.C., in May 2005. (2005FEL002605; PSA 207)

FACTS: Dorsey, 47, formerly of 825 5th Street, NE, Washington, D.C., was sentenced by Superior Court Judge Herbert B. Dixon, Jr., on the charges of Armed Robbery of a Senior Citizen and Aggravated Assault while Armed. The Court imposed a sentence of 14 years of incarceration on each count, to run concurrently, followed by five years of supervised release. A Superior Court jury found the defendant guilty of the charges on May 11, 2006, following a two-week trial.

According to the evidence at trial, the defendant robbed and brutally attacked an 83-year-old woman who worked as a t-shirt vendor near the Foggy Bottom Metro station in Northwest Washington. On May 3, 2005, the defendant waited for the victim in the rear alley of her apartment building, located about two blocks from her vending stand, and then confronted the victim as she tried to enter her building (PSA 207). After demanding the victim's money, the defendant punched the victim, knocking her to the ground. He then struck and kicked her several times in the head and body before forcibly taking her money. The attack was recorded on a

video surveillance camera. The victim, who suffered serious injuries, was transported to George Washington University Hospital for treatment.

Beginning shortly after the attack, news stories and images of the crime were broadcast to the local community. These news broadcasts led to numerous citizen tips to the Metropolitan Police Department over the next few days, including several tips naming or describing the defendant as the man in the video. Police officers stopped the defendant on May 7, 2005, and soon thereafter arrested him based on probable cause that he had committed an unrelated offense against his live-in girlfriend. Following the defendant's arrest, he waived his Miranda rights and gave a statement to detectives. The defendant initially denied any involvement in the attack, but in doing so he made several false statements relevant to the investigation. The following day, the defendant initiated a second interview with detectives in which he confessed to robbing and attacking the victim in this case.

During an investigation into these offenses, police officers recovered from the defendant and from inside his apartment several clothing items consistent with those worn during the attack. Additionally, DNA testing on a sock recovered from the crime scene, which the defendant wore on his hand during the attack, revealed material consistent with a sample of the defendant's known DNA.

In arriving at the imposed sentence, the Court stated that it had considered several factors, including the victim's vulnerability, the level of premeditation and deliberate cruelty involved in the attack, and the defendant's prior criminal record.

Defendant Collin H. Finnerty , a Duke University student and lacrosse player, was convicted of assault for an unprovoked attack in Georgetown. (2005CMD011947; PSA 206)

FACTS: Finnerty, 19, was found guilty on Tuesday, July 11, 2006, after a two-day trial in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, of misdemeanor simple assault by the Honorable John H. Bayly, Jr. The Court subsequently sentenced the defendant to 30 days of incarceration, but suspended the sentence and put the defendant on six months probation, with requirements that he participate in drug and alcohol counseling, as necessary, and pay \$500 in costs. The Court also ordered the defendant to stay away from the Georgetown area of the District of Columbia and any establishments that sell or serve alcohol during the course of his probation.

According to the government's evidence at trial, on November 5, 2005, Finnerty assaulted the victim, a neighborhood professional, after following him for two blocks up Wisconsin Avenue, NW (PSA 206), while shouting obscenities and homosexual epithets at him in an attempt to provoke a fight.

A 20-year-old District of Columbia man has been sentenced to serve 90 months in jail for sexually abusing his then-14-year-old sister.

FACTS: The 20-year-old District resident, whose name is being withheld to protect the identity of the victim, was sentenced in D.C. Superior Court before the Honorable Wendell P. Gardner, Jr., in connection with the defendant's January guilty plea to one count of first-degree child sexual abuse.

According to the government's evidence, on December 4, 2005, the defendant drove his then-14-year-old sister home from a hair salon. After arriving home, located in Northeast Washington, D.C., the defendant's sister went to her bedroom. Soon thereafter, the defendant entered his sister's room, bringing with him a condom. He then grabbed his sister, removed her underwear, and sexually abused her. He stopped when the condom popped, whereupon he fled the room. The defendant's sister immediately reported the abuse to a family member, who called the police.

DISTRICT COURT CASES

Defendant Mark Davis-McCary, 25, of Landover, Maryland, pled guilty in the U.S. District of Columbia for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Reggie B. Walton to one count of bank fraud. Davis-McCary is scheduled to be sentenced on September 29, 2006, and faces a statutory maximum of 30 years of imprisonment and payment of restitution of more than \$61,000. (District Court)

FACTS: A probation and parole supervisor, Mark Davis-McCary, has pleaded guilty to bank fraud after depositing a \$66,775 counterfeit check into his DOJ Credit Union account and then withdrawing more than \$61,000 from the account, United States Attorney Kenneth L. Wainstein and Joseph Persichini, Jr., Acting Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office, announced today.

According to the facts presented at the plea hearing, on November 2, 2005, Davis-McCary responded to an email solicitation at his place of employment, where he worked as a probation and parole supervisor, by agreeing to provide assistance in collecting funds, cashing a check and distributing the proceeds of that check on behalf of an unknown individual purporting to be a Dr. Raymond Akeem, Managing Director of the Addax & Oryx Petroleum Group, Ltd. ("Addax"). As part of the agreement, Davis-McCary would receive 10 percent of the check proceeds while the remaining 90 percent would go to Addax. On December 12, 2005, Davis-McCary deposited a counterfeit check in the amount of \$66,775.00 into a checking account he maintained at Justice Federal Credit Union ("JFCU") at the Department of Justice ("DOJ") branch, located at 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, in the District of Columbia. Prior to that deposit, Davis-McCary's JFCU account had a negative balance of \$522.44.

The \$66,775.00 counterfeit check was provisionally cleared on December 28, 2005, at which time those funds were made available to Davis-McCary. Davis-McCary then made numerous ATM withdrawals from his JFCU account and used the proceeds of the counterfeit check to pay for personal expenses, including payments for wireless telephone services, consumer electronics, hotel room charges and gasoline. In addition, Davis-McCary made a series of large cash withdrawals from the JFCU DOJ branch totaling \$31,400. On January 9, 2006, Davis-McCary entered the JFCU DOJ branch, and withdrew \$500 in cash and obtained a

\$21,000 cashier's check dated January 9, 2006, made payable to an individual with the initials "DD."

On January 17, 2006, the \$66,775.00 check Davis-McCrary deposited into his JFCU account on December 12, 2005, was returned as counterfeit. Security personnel at JFCU immediately initiated a fraud investigation and reported the incident to the FBI. As a result of Davis-McCrary's actions, JFCU suffered an actual loss of \$61,402.61.

Defendant Robert M. Cromwell, 47, a Leonardtown, Maryland man has pleaded guilty to transferring child pornography via the internet. (District Court)

FACTS: Cromwell, 47, pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Rosemary M. Collyer to the charge of Transporting or Shipping Material Involving the Sexual Exploitation of Minors and Possessing Material Constituting or Containing Child Pornography. Cromwell is subject to a mandatory minimum term of five years of imprisonment and a guideline range of 108 to 135 months when he is sentenced on October 17, 2006.

The defendant admitted during today's plea proceeding that between February and May 2005, while he was living in Leonardtown, Maryland, he engaged in several conversations with an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation working in an undercover capacity while the two were logged into a member-created internet chat room that discussed sex with children between the ages of 2 and 12 years old. During those conversations, the defendant, on four occasions, transferred to the undercover officer videos and images that depicted young girls engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

In September 2005, during a search of the defendant's Maryland residence, FBI agents recovered a computer whose hard drive stored well over 600 images and movie files of child pornography. The children depicted in these pornographic images ranged in age from infants to teenagers. An analysis of the images transferred by the defendant and recovered from his computer was conducted by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and revealed that at least 91 images were of identified child victims of sexual exploitation.

Defendant James Russell Woodgates, 54, a former Voice of America broadcaster, has been sentenced to 12 months and one day in prison, a \$6,000 fine, and five years of supervised release. (District Court)

FACTS: Woodgates, of Washington, D.C., received his sentence in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Royce C. Lamberth. Woodgates pled guilty in May 2006, to one count of possession of child pornography.

The defendant admitted during the previous plea proceeding that over the course of several years while employed as a broadcaster for the Voice of America, he had viewed pornography, including child pornography, on the internet at work. The defendant engaged in this illegal activity in a number of ways, including, browsing websites containing pornographic images of children; participating in online group chat rooms that discussed and facilitated the

trading of child pornography; maintaining online storage areas containing pornographic images of children and providing other individuals with access to those areas; and sending and receiving pornographic photos of children via the internet. The defendant immediately resigned his position at the Voice of America upon the discovery of his conduct in December 2002.

A forensic analysis of the contents of the defendant's work computer resulted in the recovery of approximately 250 separate images and four videos depicting young boys, including prepubescent boys, engaged in sexually explicit conduct. An analysis of these images conducted by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children revealed that at least 19 of the images were of identified child victims of sexual exploitation, including several victims under 12 years of age.

Defendant Kenneth C. Baker, 44, most recently of Durham, North Carolina, was sentenced to serve a total of 51 months in prison, after pleading guilty in March to charges relating to using his position as an investment consultant with a local bank to steal \$96,000 from an 88-year-old woman. (District Court)

FACTS: Baker, 44, pleaded guilty on March 22, 2006, in U.S. District Court before the Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan to four counts of Bank Fraud, Money Laundering and the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property. At the sentencing, Baker was sentenced to the maximum sentence recommended under the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines for the four federal charges, 41 months, and to an additional consecutive term of ten months for a violation of the D.C. Code. He was also ordered to make \$36,000 in restitution payments to his former employer, SunTrust Bank, which paid the victim back after the theft was discovered.

According to the government's evidence, in February 2004, while working as an Investment Consultant with SunTrust, the defendant was asked to speak with the then-88-year-old victim about preparing her estate. Soon thereafter, the defendant went to the victim's home, took her some groceries, and asked to be reimbursed. Upon seeing where the victim kept her checkbook, the defendant stole a check, wrote it out in the amount of \$96,000, an amount he knew was in her account, based on his ability to access that information. He made the check payable to his friend, 24-year-old Ruqiya Akhdar. Over the next two weeks, the defendant and Ms. Akhdar traveled to different SunTrust Bank Branches collecting considerable sums of cash, including cash transactions involving \$9,000 and \$25,000. On June 8, 2005, Ms. Akhdar pled guilty to bank fraud and has been cooperating with the government's investigation.

At the sentencing hearing today, Judge Sullivan noted that the defendant was a former Police Officer with the Alexandria, VA Police Department. The defendant was fired in 1994, when it was discovered that he had inappropriate relations with three 15-year-old high school girls, under the guise of a "mentoring program."

Defendant Hendarmin Mansoer, 44, a citizen of Indonesia, has pleaded guilty to visa fraud for his role in a scheme in which 43 Indonesian nationals and one Pakistani national submitted fraudulent visa applications to enter the United States. (District Court)

FACTS: Mansoer, entered his guilty plea before the Honorable Henry H. Kennedy, Jr. in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Upon sentencing, the defendant will face 21 to 27 months in prison under the federal sentencing guidelines. Sentencing has been scheduled for October 27, 2006.

An investigation conducted by the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service, Visa Fraud Branch (DSS), with the assistance of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), identified 43 Indonesian nationals and one Pakistani national who, since June 2001, submitted 63 non-immigrant visa applications to U.S. Embassies and Consulates in Jakarta, Surabaya and Islamabad, fraudulently seeking to work in the United States for diplomats at the Embassies of Brunei Darussalam, Benin and Jordan. Adjudicating officials issued fraudulently obtained A-3 visas to 19 of the applicants and refused visas to 44 others.

An A-3 visa may be issued by a United States Embassy abroad to an alien who is going to be employed within the United States as a household domestic or care giver of a foreign diplomat assigned in an official capacity to a diplomatic mission within the United States.

The defendant also admitted that between June 2001 to May 2006, he helped relatives obtain A-3 nonimmigrant visas for free and others in exchange for various fees totaling \$60,000. The defendant provided the individuals with documents that included a letter purportedly from the respective embassies and a purported employment contract verifying the individual's employment with a purported diplomat. The defendant helped the individual fill out the visa application by providing the address at which the individual purportedly would stay in the United States and the name and telephone numbers of his purported sponsor and a copy of the purported sponsor's passport and visa.

In May 2006, the defendant was arrested at his residence in Silver Spring, Maryland. The defendant had in his residence numerous documents related to the application for, or issuance of, A-3 visas to several individuals to work for various diplomats, official stamps and stationary from the three embassies, employment records, passport and copies of passports of various diplomats. Those documents included files containing what appeared to be multiple attempts to practice writing the signature of various diplomats; and sample fraudulent employment contracts. The defendant also had two computers containing documents related to the issuance of the fraudulent contracts, including letters purportedly from the various embassies in support of the A-3 visa applications for several individuals.

Defendant Tuan Phouc Le, 34, a Vietnamese National recently of Norcross, Georgia, plead guilty in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to Assault on a Foreign Official. (District Court)

FACTS: Under the terms of the plea agreement, Le, who entered his guilty plea before Judge Ellen Huvelle, faces a prison sentence of 18 months for violating 18 U.S.C. § 112(a). On June 21, 2005, Le intentionally struck Nguyen Quoc Huy, the Vice Chairman of the Prime Minister's Office of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, when the Vice Chairman was in

Washington, D.C., as part of a Vietnamese Delegation that was in the United States on an official visit to this Country.

During the course of his guilty plea, Le admitted he came to Washington, D.C., with others, prior to June 21, 2005, to protest the visit by the Vietnamese Government officials. On June 21, 2005, at approximately 1:00 p.m., as the Vietnamese Delegation disembarked from their motorcade and was in the process of entering the Willard Hotel, Le emerged from the crowd, rapidly approached and struck the Vice Chairman in the head and neck with his fist, and then sought to escape on foot. Le was apprehended near the scene as he attempted to make good his escape.

Sentencing has been scheduled for October 12, 2006. Under the terms of the plea agreement, if accepted by the Court, Le will be sentenced to 18 months in prison, with nine months suspended. Following his release from prison, Le will be on "Supervised Release" for a term of three years, during which time he will be required to participate in psychological and anger management counseling. He will also be required to stay away from Vietnamese Government buildings, vehicles, officials, employees, and personnel. Lastly, Le will be required to reimburse the Vice Chairman for the medical expenses incurred on June 21, 2005.

Defendant Richard A. Berglund, 46, formerly the Facility Director of an office of MZM, Inc., pleaded guilty in the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia to violating the Federal Election Campaign Act. The plea occurred before U.S. Magistrate Judge Deborah Robinson. Berglund is scheduled to be sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina on January 8, 2007. He faces up to one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine. (District Court)

FACTS: Berglund, of Valrico, Florida, supervised the Martinsville, Virginia office of MZM, a now-defunct large military contractor that was based in Washington, D.C. MZM's owner was Mitchell Wade, who pled guilty in February to making illegal campaign contributions and to conspiring to bribe Congressman Duke Cunningham and to make corrupt payments to Defense Department officials.

According to the government's evidence, Wade and Berglund engaged in a scheme in which they used Wade's money to unlawfully reimburse MZM employees for campaign contributions to a congressman. Specifically, in March 2005, Wade provided cash to Berglund and asked him to use the cash to fund campaign contributions in the name of Berglund, Berglund's wife, and MZM employees who worked in Martinsville, under Berglund's supervision. Berglund then used \$3,000 of Wade's cash to make a \$2,000 contribution in his own name and a \$2,000 contribution in his wife's name. Berglund paid for the remaining \$1,000 from his own funds. Berglund also provided \$2,000 each to two employees, who then each wrote \$2,000 checks to the congressman's campaign. Wade delivered the resulting \$8,000 in illegal campaign contributions to the congressman at a March 4, 2005 fund-raising event. Wade did not inform the congressman that the contributions were illegal.

In his February plea, Wade accepted responsibility for his part in this scheme. Both Wade and Berglund are cooperating with the government's investigation.

Defendant Vicki Whitmire Shaw, 51, former Investigator for the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), was sentenced to 18 months in prison, followed by two years of supervised release, following her prior guilty plea to accepting bribes from local business in exchange for declining to cite the business for violations of various municipal regulations. (District Court)

FACTS: Shaw, 51, of the 6000 block of Hil-Mar Drive, Forestville, Maryland, was sentenced in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Judge Royce C. Lamberth. During the prior plea hearing, Shaw admitted to accepting bribes from different small businesses over several years.

Shaw was employed by the DCRA as an investigator for approximately six years until her resignation in January of 2006. Her duties included conducting record searches and inspections of various businesses and construction sites to determine whether the businesses or sites had obtained the proper licenses, certificates of occupancy, contracting permits, and similar documents authorizing activities at these locations. As part of her job as an investigator, Shaw was empowered to issue businesses notices of infraction, which could result in the businesses being required to pay substantial fines. If a business was unable to provide Shaw with evidence of proper licensing, for example, she would seek certification that there was no license reflected in the DCRA computer system. Once Shaw received the certification of no license, she was then empowered to issue a notice of infraction.

Shaw told law enforcement that for the first years of her employment as an investigator with the DCRA, she did not accept any bribes despite having been offered them by business owners. Beginning approximately three years ago, however, Shaw stated she began to accept bribe payments from several businesses after she informed them of their violations and they offered money or slipped money into her bag in exchange for Shaw not issuing a notice of infraction or "ticket" for the businesses' failures to have the required licenses, certificates or permits. Shaw received both cash payments and free services from beauty or nail salons and other businesses in exchange for Shaw not issuing infraction notices to the businesses because of the businesses' lack of licenses, certificates or permits. The amount of the payments made to Shaw by these businesses varied; businesses sometimes paid approximately \$200 to her each time she visited over several visits. During the course of approximately three years, the defendant accepted bribe payments in the form of cash or services amounting to several thousands of dollars.

Defendant Regard Yakou, 46, a United States citizen residing in California, has plead guilty to having made false statements to federal agents when he denied knowing that he was breaking the law by helping Saddam Hussein's Iraqi Government build patrol boats during 2002 and early 2003. (District Court)

FACTS: The plea was in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler, who set sentencing for October 31, 2006. The maximum penalty for the offense is five years of imprisonment, although under the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, Yakou will likely receive a sentence that will not require incarceration.

According to the government's investigation, Yakou was living in Baghdad, Iraq, when United States military forces liberated Iraq in Spring 2003. Beginning at least in early 2002, Yakou was working under a contract with the Iraqi Government to build several patrol boats, using materials and labor from Southeast Asia, and several vessels had been nearly completed when the United States invaded Iraq.

Under the then-applicable Iraqi Transactions Regulations (ITR), it was a violation of United States law for a United States person to conduct business with the Iraqi Government. After the Saddam regime fell, Yakou tried to interest the United States-led Coalition Forces occupying Iraq in buying the patrol boats. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) then launched a criminal investigation that led to Yakou's arrest in Baghdad in October 2003. He was brought to the United States, and on October 14, 2003, a federal grand jury in the District of Columbia indicted him on a series of ITR charges.

Defendant Gholam H. Kowkabi, 46, a local restaurateur, has been sentenced to 18 months in prison following his earlier plea in a \$2 million mail, tax and bankruptcy fraud matter related to the collection and payment of District of Columbia sales taxes generated by his restaurants. (District Court)

FACTS: Kowkabi, of Vienna, Virginia, was sentenced in U.S. District Court before the Honorable John D. Bates. In February 2006, the defendant pled guilty to one count of mail fraud and one count of failure to pay over collected sales taxes to the District of Columbia. Under the terms of the agreement, Kowkabi paid \$1,770,000 in restitution to the District. Additionally, the District of Columbia and Kowkabi entered into a series of settlements that relate to his and his restaurants' liability which resolved the bankruptcy related to Kowkabi and his establishments.

According to the government's evidence, Kowkabi and four of his corporations were involved in a six-year scheme that defrauded the District of Columbia out of more than \$2 million in sales taxes that Kowkabi's restaurants collected from patrons, which he failed to turn over to the District of Columbia as required by law. Kowkabi was charged under the new District of Columbia 10-year felony punishing those who fail to pay over sales tax. This case marked the first felony prosecution under this statute, which the Mayor and City Council enacted in 2000 specifically to root out gross abuses of trust.

Restaurants located in the District of Columbia are required by law to collect as sales tax 10 percent (10%) of the bill for the food and beverages from each diner. This money is collected on behalf of the District of Columbia and must be held in trust for the District of Columbia. Each month restaurants are required to account for the money they have collected from each diner and are required to pay over the sales tax revenue they have collected to the District of Columbia's Office of Tax and Revenue.

Each restaurant in the District of Columbia must make an honest and accurate accounting of the sales taxes it has collected and certify that accounting under penalty of perjury. This is

done by filing a “Sales and Use Tax Monthly Return,” form with the D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue.

In this matter, beginning in 1998 and continuing through 2005, Kowkabi owned the following four restaurants and one nightclub within the District of Columbia:

- Entertainment Management, Inc., doing business as Sole Restaurant, located at 3050 K Street, NW;
- Restaurant Piccolo, Inc., doing business as Restaurant Piccolo, located at 1068 31st Street, NW;
- Alamo Grill of Georgetown, Inc., doing business as Alamo Grill, located at 1063 31st Street, NW; and
- Parasi, Inc., *aka* Elba, Inc., and doing business as Tuscana West, located at 1350 “I” Street, NW.

Kowkabi, as part of his scheme, would instruct his employees to collect from his diners and patrons the full 10% due and owing on all sales of meals and drinks served at his restaurants. However, instead of paying over the money, Kowkabi allegedly diverted roughly 80% of the funds for his own use. Over a six-year period, Kowkabi converted at least \$2 million of the sales tax he charged to his diners.

In order to cover his tracks, Kowkabi intentionally filed false monthly sales figures on the forms that were submitted to the D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue on behalf of Restaurant Piccolo, Alamo Grill, Sole Restaurant, and Tuscana West. These reports falsely understated the sales tax that the restaurants had collected from diners for each month. Kowkabi would then send the District of Columbia a check for the understated amount. Pursuant to the plea agreement, Kowkabi acknowledged that he knew that these reports were false and that he was paying only a portion of the money that had truly been collected at each restaurant because he kept detailed, daily books and records of accounts at the restaurants and nightclub which tracked the actual amount of money collected from diners at the restaurant as well as the true amount of sales tax owed to the District of Columbia.

After the D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue began investigating him, Kowkabi filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in 2004.

Defendant Michelle L. Newman, a former employee for SunTrust Bank, was sentenced on her prior guilty plea to bank theft in connection with the theft of approximately \$70,000 from the bank. Newman, 32, of Woodbridge, Virginia, was sentenced today in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia by the Honorable James Robertson to 3 years of probation, including 4 months of home confinement, and ordered to pay \$70,797.30 in restitution to the bank. During her prior guilty plea, Newman admitted that from January of 2002 until July 26, 2005, she submitted fraudulent expenses for alleged bank client functions and deposited the resulting credited funds into her own personal checking account to use for gambling. (District Court)

FACTS: As part of her guilty plea, Newman acknowledged that she worked at SunTrust Bank in the Wealth Management Division until July 2005. It was in July of 2005, when officials at SunTrust became concerned about general ledger entries made by Newman for alleged client functions and expenses or supplies that reportedly had been requested by specific team leaders and approved by Newman's supervisors. The SunTrust officials noted that a number of ledger entries for the debit ticket to pay these expenses made during the first six months of 2005 had forged signatures authorizing payments and that the offsetting credit ticket for each entry was deposited into Newman's personal checking account.

An investigation of this matter showed more than 400 debits with corresponding credits being made to Newman's checking account. The respective team leaders, however, all denied that the events took place or, if there was a function, the team leaders stated it would not have required the expense submitted by Newman. Each of the team leaders said they would have used their corporate credit cards for client entertainment. Newman's supervisors also stated that the expenses would not have been authorized and the authorizing signatures were not their respective signatures.

Newman submitted her resignation to SunTrust Bank on July 14, 2005. On July 26, 2005, Newman admitted to a bank investigator that she had developed a gambling habit in early 2002 and used the credits from the fraudulent general ledger expense entries to pay for her gambling. A review of bank records for 2002 through 2005 showed a loss to SunTrust Bank of over \$70,000 from Newman's activities.

Defendant Ramon Rodriguez a former U.S. Department of Education Program Specialist, Ramon Rodriguez, has pleaded guilty to accepting \$10,000 from the president of a company that had been awarded a contract from a Department of Education grantee to install computers at schools in California and Oregon. Rodriguez, 76, of Alexandria, Virginia, entered a plea of guilty today in U.S. District Court before the Honorable Royce C. Lamberth to the charge of offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving a gratuity. Pursuant to the terms of the plea, Rodriguez could receive a maximum of two years of imprisonment when he is sentenced before the Honorable Royce C. Lamberth on October 20, 2006. (District Court)

FACTS: "There is no room in our government for those who abuse their positions for private gain," stated U.S. Attorney Wainstein. "By accepting cash from a private contractor, this public official compromised the integrity of the Department of Education's grantee contracting process and violated his duty as a public servant."

"Accountability applies to everyone," said John P. Higgins, Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Education. "We will continue to aggressively pursue those who seek to enrich themselves at the expense of our nation's students and taxpayers, especially those in a position of trust like Mr. Rodriguez."

According to the statement of the offense agreed to by Rodriguez and the government, between January 1, 2003 and July 1, 2005, Rodriguez was employed as an Education Program Specialist in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services at the

United States Department of Education's office in Washington, D.C. In his capacity as Program Specialist, Rodriguez was responsible for monitoring numerous grants worth millions of dollars awarded by the United States Department of Education to educational institutions that provide services to the deaf and hearing-impaired community. Grantees were required to provide project updates to Rodriguez and to obtain his approval for various aspects of their grant projects, including, in some cases, the expenditure of grant funds.

In November 2004, the Department of Education's Office of the Inspector General began investigating Rodriguez after receiving a complaint alleging that Rodriguez was attempting to influence a grantee to hire his girlfriend as an employee or consultant through a private company and that Rodriguez was friends with the president of this company.

Investigators subsequently learned that Rodriguez had tried to influence a grantee in California to hire his girlfriend and to enter into a contract for grant-related services with the private company. Rodriguez was the Project Officer in charge of reviewing the grantee's expenditures and ensuring its compliance with regulations.

In September 2005, Rodriguez agreed to speak to agents from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of the Inspector General and the FBI's Washington Field Office. Rodriguez told the agents that the private company's president had hired his girlfriend as the Research Director for a contract that the company had negotiated with the grantee in January 2005. Rodriguez stated that he had consulted with the private company in a "broad sense," providing the company's president with ideas for strategic planning, brainstorming, and marketing.

Rodriguez admitted that the company's president had told him that he would be able to pay Rodriguez for services he had provided over the past couple of years if the company received the contract with the California grantee. The company's president subsequently paid him \$10,000 in cash in two separate installments between January and May 2005 for services Rodriguez had provided to the company over the past 25 years. The installments corresponded to the installment payments the company had received pursuant to its contract with the grantee.

Rodriguez admitted to the agents that he tried to shield the company's payments by requesting that he be paid in cash and not by check. Rodriguez stated that neither Department of Education officials or supervisors nor the grantee's officials were aware of the cash payments by the company to him.

Defendant Attly Hans, a Haitian man, has pleaded guilty to taking an American woman hostage in Haiti. Hans, 21, of Haiti, pleaded guilty today to the hostage-taking charge in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable James Robertson. The adult woman victim, who is a United States citizen, had been visiting relatives in the area of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The defendant faces a maximum sentence up to life imprisonment under the Hostage-Taking statute. He was arrested in late May in Haiti and brought to the United States. No sentencing date has yet been set. (District Court)

FACTS: On May 10, 2006, the American woman was returning from the city of Carrefour, Haiti, riding in a truck with a relative. The ordeal for the woman began when a car coming from the opposite direction pulled in front of them, blocking the road. Armed men alighted from the car and took the victim hostage, leaving her companion on the roadside. The hostage-takers threatened her and told her money would have to be paid for her release. She was taken to a deserted area and pushed into a shallow grave to further intimidate her. Among other threats, the hostage-takers contacted relatives of the woman and told them that if they did not pay a large sum of money, they would kill the woman and dump her in a garbage pail.

The woman had friends and relatives in the city of Leogane, Haiti. They heard that she had been kidnapped and that her vehicle was carjacked. They were able to spot her vehicle on a street in Leogane and decided to keep an eye on it. Citizens from the area were watching the vehicle on May 15 when three men came to take possession of the vehicle. One of these men was defendant Attly Hans. The citizens of Leogane were able to detain the three men and notify the authorities, who reported to the scene and arrested defendant Hans.

The other hostage-takers still holding the woman apparently became apprehensive, and freed the woman later in the day on May 15, 2006. Over the five days that the woman was held, ransom of over \$7,200 was paid to the hostage-takers.

Defendant Russel Jerry Joseph, a Trinidadian national, has pleaded guilty to the hostage-taking resulting in death in Trinidad of U.S. citizen Balram Maharaj. Russel Joseph, also known as "Saucy," 33, formerly of Lower Santa Cruz, Trinidad, pleaded guilty yesterday before the Honorable John D. Bates in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to the charges of hostage-taking resulting in death and conspiracy to commit hostage-taking resulting in death. The victim had been visiting relatives in Trinidad when he was taken hostage in April 2005. (District Court)

FACTS: Joseph faces a maximum sentence up to life imprisonment under the hostage-taking statute. The United States has agreed not to seek the death penalty against Joseph. A sentencing date has not yet been set. Joseph was arrested in Trinidad and extradited to the United States on May 9, 2006. Two other individuals, Winston Gittens and David Suchit, have been extradited to the United States in connection with the hostage-taking of Maharaj and are expected to appear in court in Washington, D.C., during the next week. In addition to Joseph, Gittens, and Suchit, the superseding Indictment in this matter charges five other individuals, as to each of whom the United States has requested extradition from Trinidad and Tobago.

In April 2005, the victim, Balram Maharaj, a naturalized American citizen of Trinidadian heritage, returned to his native land to visit his family. According to the allegations of the superseding Indictment, the ordeal began for Maharaj when, on April 6, 2005, he was seized by armed gunmen as he sat relaxing at the Samaan Tree Bar. Maharaj, 61, suffered from poor health and was held hostage under very harsh conditions, including depriving him of essential medications, while his abductors demanded a ransom from his family for his release. The dismembered and badly decomposed body of Maharaj was located by the authorities in a remote area of Trinidad on January 8, 2006.

Three Florida residents have been indicted by a federal grand jury in connection with a nationwide fraudulent “pump and dump” securities fraud scheme, U.S. Attorney Kenneth L. Wainstein and Inspector in Charge Guy J. Cottrell of the United States Postal Inspection Service’s Washington Division jointly announced today.

Defendant Anna Boling, 34, and Roderic Boling, 40 of Altamonte Springs, Florida, and Jeffrey Mills, 43, of Longwood, Florida were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in the District of Columbia earlier today. This was in connection with the securities fraud scheme that involved the manipulation of the price and volume of publicly traded securities through the use of fraudulent voicemail messages. The Bolings and Mills are each charged with Conspiracy, Securities Fraud and seven counts of Wire Fraud. If convicted of the charges, they each face a maximum term of imprisonment of 45 years. (District Court)

FACTS: “These defendants are charged with running a brazen scheme that manipulated our securities markets and investors,” stated U.S. Attorney Wainstein. “This case demonstrates the willingness of this Office and the SEC to bring the full weight of federal regulatory enforcement against those who choose not to play by the rules of the securities marketplace.”

The indictment alleges that between July and August 2004, Jeffrey S. Mills, and then husband and wife team Roderic L. Boling and Anna Boling, caused fraudulent hoax voicemail messages containing the voice of Anna Boling to be distributed to answering machines and voicemail systems throughout the United States and in the District of Columbia. The messages were to deceive prospective investors into believing they had inadvertently received a confidential stock tip intended for a close friend of the person leaving the message.

Each hoax message purported to be a message left by a woman for her close friend in which she attempted to convey to her friend a hot stock tip from a “hot stock exchange guy” that she was dating, whose previous stock tip had been accurate and very lucrative for her father. Although each message was designed to appear to have been left on a single answering machine by mistake, the hoax messages were distributed to thousands of answering machines and voicemail systems throughout the United States in order fraudulently to induce investors to purchase the touted securities and to manipulate the price of the touted securities.

The defendants’ distribution of the fraudulent hoax voicemail messages artificially inflated the price and demand for several publicly traded securities.

The criminal investigation of the underlying nationwide fraudulent voicemail securities fraud scheme aggressively continues.

The Securities and Exchange Commission today filed a civil enforcement action against Jeffrey Mills, Anna Boling, Roderic Boling, and Mill’s company Direct Results of Sweetwater, LLC, for their securities fraud scheme alleging violations of the antifraud provisions of the federal securities laws, Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 thereunder.

Defendants Charles Dorius and Vava Pierre, two Haitian men, have pleaded guilty to taking an American child hostage in Haiti. Dorius, 24, and Pierre, 30, both of Haiti, pleaded guilty today to the hostage-taking charge in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Reggie Walton. The child victim, who is a U.S. citizen, was living in Port au Prince, Haiti, with her family. The defendants face a maximum sentence up to life imprisonment under the Hostage-Taking statute. Both men will be sentenced on November 13, 2006. (District Court)

FACTS: According to the government's evidence, on March 24, 2006, at 7:30 in the morning, the victim, a ten-year-old American, along with her sister and mother were backing out of their drive-way in Haiti, on the way to school. Suddenly, Pierre and another man approached the car with guns drawn, and removed the mother and the victim's sister from the car. The victim's mother implored the kidnapers to take her and not her little girl. Dorius, who had been waiting across the street, Pierre and the other man got into the car with the little girl. Dorius drove the car while Pierre and the other man still had their guns drawn.

Hours later, the three men arrived at the house with the child. Once there, a fourth man arrived. Pierre and the fourth man took the child into the house and led her to a room where the door was securely closed. While the fourth man waited at the house with the child, Dorius, Pierre and the third man got back into the car to get rid of it and to demand ransom money from the victim's mother. The ransom which was going to be demanded was for \$100,000 U.S. dollars. Before the ransom money could be demanded, the Haitian National Police spotted the car and pursued them. The kidnapers abandoned the car and ran. During the chase, the third man was killed and shortly thereafter, Pierre and Dorius were arrested.

Defendant Reginald Jerome Rogers, a former lawyer, has been found guilty of mail fraud involving a scheme to defraud elderly clients. Rogers, 52, an attorney formerly licensed in the District of Columbia, with an office in Bowie, Maryland, who also served as a District of Columbia Hearing Examiner, was found guilty yesterday by federal jury sitting in the District of Columbia of 13 counts of mail fraud relating to a scheme that began in 1998 to defraud elderly clients and an estate of their money. The jury also found that the defendant should forfeit \$385,000 to the government. At sentencing, the defendant faces a maximum of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000 and restitution of all victim losses. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the defendant faces a likely sentence of approximately 60 months. The defendant will be sentenced on October 20, 2006, by the Honorable Richard W. Roberts. (District Court)

FACTS: According to the evidence at trial, Rogers practiced law from his home office in Bowie, Maryland, and handled the financial affairs of elderly clients and their estates in the Washington area. He designated several elderly women clients as his "priority" clients for whom he not only performed legal work, but also did household chores such as grocery shopping and running errands for these clients. By performing these household chores, the defendant gained his clients' trust and induced them to turn over control of their finances to him as their fiduciary. After obtaining unlimited control over the clients' financial assets, the defendant unlawfully diverted money from their accounts to his own for his own personal gain without their knowledge and consent. Rogers also transferred funds between the elderly clients' accounts

to conceal his diversions, and concealed his scheme by making false statements to elderly clients regarding the status of their funds and property.

Defendant Narase Bob Oudit, a former District of Columbia Project Manager, Narase Bob Oudit, has pleaded guilty to bribery. Oudit pled guilty to the charge earlier today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Paul L. Friedman. Sentencing is scheduled for January 12, 2007. Pursuant to the federal sentencing guidelines, Oudit faces a likely sentence of between 37 to 46 months in prison. (District Court)

FACTS: During the plea hearing, Oudit, 50, of Washington, D.C., admitted that he used his position as a project manager in the District of Columbia's Office of Property Management ("OPM") to demand over \$300,000 in bribes from construction contractors.

Oudit was a General Engineer at OPM, where he oversaw construction projects for the Department of Parks and Recreation. Oudit supervised the performance of contractors and had the ability to inflict financial harm upon contractors or to reward them. Oudit supervised construction at the North Michigan Park, Sherwood Recreation Center, and Kenilworth Recreation Center projects.

According to the government's evidence, Oudit demanded bribes from contractors at each of these three projects during 2002 and 2003. Specifically, Oudit demanded \$294,000 from a contractor at North Michigan Park, threatening not to approve a necessary time extension. The contractor paid Oudit \$13,500 in FBI funds. After not receiving the balance, Oudit informed the contractor's bonding company that OPM was prepared to terminate the contract. Regarding Sherwood Recreation Center, Oudit demanded that a contractor submit a fraudulent request that a \$312,519 subcontract be awarded to a construction company that Oudit controlled. Finally, Oudit demanded that a third contractor, who was installing gymnasium floors at North Michigan Park and Kenilworth Recreation Centers, pay \$38,500 to the construction company that Oudit controlled.

Defendant Terri D. Minor, a former Civilian Payroll Technician, Human Support Services Cluster, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, has pled guilty to aiding and abetting the obtaining of more than \$19,000 in funds by fraud from a program receiving federal funds through a time and attendance fraud scheme. (District Court)

FACTS: Minor, 40, of Laurel, Maryland, pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Judge Henry H. Kennedy, Jr. She faces up to 10 years in prison when sentenced in October of this year, although under the federal sentencing, she is likely to receive a sentence that will not require incarceration.

According to the statement of offense filed in this matter, which was agreed to by the defendant Minor, Steven McGloster was a D.C. government employee working as a Correctional Officer with the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. Between November 2004 and April 2006, McGloster worked as a Correctional Officer at the Oak Hill Youth Center, which was operated by the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. During the time that

McGloster worked at Oak Hill Youth Center, the D.C. Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services received at least \$10,000 per year from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Minor was also a D.C. Government employee working as a Civilian Payroll Technician, Human Support Services Cluster, Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Part of her duties included preparing time and attendance records for D.C. government employees.

In or about October of 2005, McGloster was placed on a status of leave without pay with the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. At about that same time, Minor, McGloster's girlfriend with whom he shared a residence, was assigned to do the time and attendance records for the Oak Hill employees.

In about October of 2005, Minor and McGloster agreed with each other for Minor to alter McGloster's time and attendance records to fraudulently show that he was working. Minor altered these records from about October of 2005 through about February of 2006. Minor stopped at that time because McGloster returned to work at the Oak Hill Youth Center. Minor fraudulently altered time and attendance records for seven two-week pay periods. During that time, Minor, beyond showing that McGloster was working, also added hours for overtime, holiday, night, or Sunday hours, hours for which provided additional compensation. The total amount of money that McGloster received for the fraudulent time and attendance records was approximately \$19,002.76.

A criminal Information charging McGloster for his role in this scheme has been filed with the Court.

Defendant Pedro Paulo dos Santos, a federal grand jury has indicted a former Georgetown University employee, on charges of defrauding the University and Riggs Bank of more than \$300,000. On July 19, 2006, a federal grand jury returned a 10-count indictment against dos Santos also known as Pedro dos Santos, 39, of Hyattsville, Maryland, for defrauding his former employer, Georgetown University as well as Riggs Bank, N.A., of more than \$310,000 over a period of four years. Specifically, the indictment charges the defendant with five counts of bank fraud, two counts of mail fraud, two counts of money laundering, and one count of first degree theft. The indictment also contains a forfeiture of property count. If convicted of the charges, dos Santos faces a statutory maximum of 30 years of imprisonment under the federal sentencing guidelines and a \$1,000,000 fine. (District Court)

FACTS: According to the indictment, dos Santos had worked from 1998 until March 2005 at Georgetown University ("Georgetown"). In his most recent position as Georgetown's Associate Director and Program Coordinator for the Political Database and Brazilian Studies Program, he became familiar with the paperwork and authorizations required for vendors to obtain compensation for their services.

The indictment alleges that between September 2001 to February 2005, dos Santos developed and engaged in a scheme by which he would write, sign and issue, or cause to be written, signed and issued, checks to a fictitious lecturer purportedly for consulting services.

Dos Santos created invoices in the name of a fictitious vendor for consulting and guest lecturing services purportedly performed on behalf of the Brazilian Studies Program. To further justify fraudulent payments from Georgetown, dos Santos completed forged expense vouchers that he submitted together with the fake invoices to the Georgetown accounts payable department. After processing these invoices and vouchers, the accounts payable department issued checks as payment for services purportedly performed on behalf of Georgetown. These checks were either picked up by dos Santos from the accounts payable department or sent via U.S. mail to an address dos Santos had designated on the vouchers.

Defendant Tara M. Wilson, a former employee for First Union National (now Wachovia) Bank (“FUNB”), has pleaded guilty to fraud the first degree in connection with her aiding a counterfeit check writing scheme at the bank. Wilson, 24, of the 500 block of Lamont Street, NW, entered her guilty plea at a hearing today in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Rosemary M. Collyer, during which she admitted that from November of 2000 until March of 2001, she provided banking information to a group of individuals involved in a counterfeit check writing scheme and then cashed the counterfeit checks they brought to the bank. Wilson faces up to 10 years in prison under the D.C. fraud statute when sentenced in October of this year. Wilson has agreed to joint and several liability for restitution of \$94,786 to the bank. (District Court)

FACTS: As part of her guilty plea, Wilson acknowledged that she worked as a teller at FUNB from November of 2000 to March of 2001. While working at the bank, Wilson had a discussion with a friend she knew from high school. The friend and others were involved in a counterfeit check writing scheme and the friend asked Wilson for her assistance in that scheme. Wilson agreed to assist these individuals in their scheme.

Thereafter, Wilson provided copies of corporate checks for ten or more corporations to the individuals involved in the check writing scheme. In late-February or early-March of 2001, the individuals involved in the check writing scheme came into the FUNB where Wilson worked to cash counterfeit checks that had been produced using the information provided to them by Wilson. Each individual presented a picture identification in the name of the payee of the check. At least five separate individuals came into the bank with checks. After Wilson finished work for the day, she met with the individuals involved in the scheme, who paid her \$1,000 for her assistance in cashing the counterfeit checks.

The individuals involved in the check writing scheme came into FUNB about four or five separate times. Wilson recalled being paid a total amount of \$5,000 to \$6,000 for her assistance in the scheme.

Wilson stopped cashing the counterfeit checks after she was questioned by bank security and was then terminated from her job with the bank. In total, there were approximately 60 counterfeit checks passed through Wilson as part of the scheme, for a total amount of approximately \$94,786.

One of the individuals involved in the check writing scheme was Sean Anthony Williams. Williams owned a computer that was used by the individuals in the check writing

scheme to print the counterfeit checks in Williams' home. Williams pled guilty in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, in October of 2005 to a one-count information charging bank fraud for his role in using these counterfeit checks at banks in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Williams was sentenced on April 7, 2006, to 15 months in prison and ordered to make restitution to the banks defrauded.

Defendant Joyce R. Williams, 40, of Largo, MD, formerly employed by College Summit's National Headquarters, pleaded guilty today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to felony credit card fraud. The plea occurred before U.S. District Court Judge John D. Bates. Williams is scheduled to be sentenced on October 12, 2006. Under the voluntary sentencing guidelines, Williams faces up to one year incarceration is not likely. (District Court)

FACTS: According to the government's evidence, on approximately October 12, 2005, knowing that she was not authorized to do so, Williams rush ordered an American Express Corporate Credit Card for herself in the name of College Summit. Between October 14, 2005 and January 23, 2006, for her personal benefit, Williams charged airplane tickets, hotel stays, meals, clothing, electronics, concert tickets, jewelry, fuel and bills to the credit card. Williams made these charges from the business in Washington, D.C., her home in Largo, MD, as well as, Springfield, VA, Atlanta, GA, Atlantic City, NJ, Philadelphia, PA and Las Vegas, NV and other jurisdictions. Williams charged over \$45,000 to the credit card. Williams made two payments to the credit card of approximately \$11,300 and \$3,600 using College Summit checks that she wrongfully obtained.

Defendant Rodney V. Brooks, a California man, has pled guilty to 19 bank robberies, including 3 in the District of Columbia, U.S. Attorneys Michael J. Sullivan (District of Massachusetts) and U.S. Attorneys Kenneth L. Wainstein (District of Columbia). Brooks, 44, of Hayward, California, pled guilty earlier today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts before U.S. District Judge William G. Young to committing 19 bank robberies in California, Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Massachusetts. (District Court)

FACTS: At a plea hearing, Brooks admitted that between May 21, 2005, and September 9, 2005, he robbed or attempted to rob seven banks in San Francisco, California, three banks in Washington, D.C., six banks in the Maryland suburbs of Washington D.C., and three banks in the Boston area, before being apprehended in Boston. In the District of Columbia, Brooks robbed the American Bank, located at 5600 Connecticut Avenue, NW, on July 12, 2005, making off with \$1,720; the PNC Bank, located at 800 17th Street, NW, on July 21, 2005, escaping with \$3,600; and the Eagle Bank, located at 1425 K Street, NW, on August 1, 2005, taking \$4,000. These cases were charged in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and transferred by consent to the District of Massachusetts.

Sentencing is scheduled to take place on November 9, 2006, in Boston. Brooks faces up to 20 years of imprisonment on each count, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine.

Defendant Charles E. Hall, Sr., a former loan officer, was found guilty today by a federal jury of all eight counts of an Indictment charging him with conspiracy, bank fraud,

wire fraud, and money laundering. The trial was conducted before the Honorable Sterling Johnson, Jr., sitting by designation from the Eastern District of New York. Hall, 37, of Accokeek, Maryland, is facing approximately 15 to 20 years in prison under the federal sentencing guidelines. He is scheduled to be sentenced on October 26, 2006. (District Court)

FACTS: The government's evidence at trial established that between 2002 and 2003, Hall and other co-conspirators identified approximately 32 District of Columbia homes that would be targeted for "flip sales" or quick resales at fraudulently inflated prices. Hall recruited people to act as the "straw buyers," people who would have the property in their names, but not have to pay the down payments or the mortgages. Hall, who at the time was a loan officer for a mortgage company, submitted loan applications for these straw buyers seeking approximately \$14 million in loans to purchase the properties; these loan applications falsely listed the straw buyers' assets (such as real estate owned and earnest money deposits) and falsely stated other information (such as marital status and intention to live in the properties).

The evidence at trial established that Hall paid co-conspirator Robbie Colwell to write false appraisals inaccurately reporting the conditions of the properties and stating that the properties were renovated when, in fact, they were not. Through the use of these fraudulently inflated appraisals, which dramatically overstated the value of the properties, the lenders paid a much higher mortgage based on a much higher price. Hall obtained approval for these mortgage loans by paying money bribes to co-conspirator underwriters to approve loan applications which did not meet the requirements of the lenders' loan programs and to approve loans quickly.

By using the false loan applications, the fraudulently inflated appraisals, and the fraudulently obtained underwriting, Hall caused the lenders to issue loans to the straw buyers in amounts that were more than the properties were actually worth, thus creating a large amount of illegal proceeds when the properties were "flipped" to the buyers. Co-conspirator Alan R. Davis and others purchased the properties, and, at times on the same day, quickly resold the "flipped" properties to the straw buyers at the price of the inflated appraisals. The proceeds for each "flip" sale, which represented the difference between the amount co-conspirator Davis and others paid for the property and the amount that the straw buyer "agreed" to pay for the property (which was supported by the fraudulently inflated appraisal), ranged anywhere from approximately \$150,000 to \$400,000 per property.

Hall also paid a co-conspirator settlement agent to assist in the crime. The settlement agent disbursed the loan money to Hall and co-conspirator Davis without first receiving the "cash from borrower." Hall and Davis used a portion of the loan money to pay the "cash from borrower" by purchasing cashiers' checks so it would appear as though the straw buyers paid their own money as part of the purchase price. A co-conspirator real estate agent also assisted in the crime by obtaining documents and prices.

Hall received about \$5.2 million of the loan proceeds. This \$5.2 million was largely identified as money for "rehab construction," when in truth, little if any renovations were performed on the properties; instead, according to the evidence, Hall used the money to live a lavish lifestyle, to pay off the co-conspirators, and to fund the continuation of the scheme. The

mortgages on all but one of those properties have been defaulted and foreclosed or sold before foreclosure for a loss. The lenders have resold the properties for less than the mortgage loans, and, as a result, have lost in excess of \$5 million.

Both co-conspirators, Robbie Colwell and Alan Davis, previously pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing.

Defendant Afsaneh Tehrani, 47, of Old Dominion Drive, McLean, Virginia, was indicted by a federal grand jury in the District of Columbia. Tehrani has been charged as the owner and operator of a dental clinic with health care fraud and false statements. She will be presented on the charges this afternoon before a U.S. Magistrate Judge. The FBI has seized \$148,000 from accounts of the defendant, who faces in excess of 50 years of incarceration if she is convicted of all counts in the indictment. (District Court)

FACTS: According to the Indictment, the defendant was the owner, operator, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of D.C. Dentistry, a dental clinic located at Suite 910, 1712 I Street, NW, Washington, D.C. Although the defendant was not a dentist, D.C. Dentistry employed dentists who provided dental services to patients.

From on or about November 22, 1997, and continuing until on or about June 24, 2005, the defendant allegedly executed a scheme to obtain money by submitting insurance claims, which she prepared, to insurance companies. The false claims were for dental procedures which had not been performed; for identical claims to two insurance companies for performed dental procedures; and for identical claims to two insurance companies for dental procedures which had not been performed. The defendant would falsify the dates when procedures had been performed, and she altered or destroyed patient records of D.C. Dentistry. The defendant also falsely claimed that a water leak caused damage to patient records in D.C. Dentistry.

The Bureau of National Affairs was listed in the indictment as an insured entity along with the insurance companies Aetna Life Insurance Company; Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife); Cigna Corporation, also known as Connecticut General Life Insurance; Humana Dental; Delta Dental of New York; and MAMSI Life and Health Insurance Company.

Defendant David S.C. Tatum, 70, of Lexington, Kentucky corporate executive has been sentenced in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable John D. Bates to one year of probation, 50 hours of community service, and a \$5,000 fine for having made a material false statement to federal agents investigation violations of the U.S. trade embargo against Iran. (District Court)

FACTS: Tatum pled guilty to the offense on May 4, 2006. The charge arose from an investigation conducted by the U.S. Department of Commerce Department's Office of Export Enforcement ("OEE") and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) into a scheme by two executives of Clark Material Handling Corporation ("CMHC"), a Kentucky-based forklift truck manufacturer, to sell U.S.-origin forklift components to an Iranian forklift truck manufacturer, Sepahan Lifter, in violation of the trade embargo against Iran. The two CMHC executives, Robert E. Quinn and Michael H. Holland,

and Sepahan Lifter's Managing Director, Mohammad A. Sharbaf, were indicted in the District of Columbia in April 2005.

During the course of the investigation, Tatum, then a CMHC Vice President, was interviewed. According to papers filed in connection with Tatum's plea, Tatum knew of the Iranian trade embargo and was also aware that Quinn and Holland were in communication with Sharbaf and had arranged for parts to be shipped to Sepahan Lifter through a company in the United Arab Emirates ("U.A.E."), thereby making it appear that the parts were not going to an embargoed country. In pleading guilty, Tatum admitted that in August 2005, he falsely told OEE and ICE agents investigating the matter that, after learning of Quinn's and Holland's dealing with Sepahan Lifter and Sharbaf, Tatum had instructed them to cease sending CMHC replacement parts to Sepahan Lifter or Sharbaf either directly or through a third party. In fact, he had not given such an instruction to Quinn or Holland.

In imposing sentence on Tatum, the Court noted that the offense was particularly serious because it arose in the specific context of a federal criminal investigation, and had "a real chance of impeding justice." However, because the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines provide for a probationary sentence for such an offense, the Court imposed a term of probation with conditions.

After a trial ending in December 2005, a jury found Quinn guilty of all six counts of the indictment against him, and on February 23, 2006, he was sentenced to 39 months of imprisonment. Holland was acquitted after trial. Sharbaf remains at large. A fourth coconspirator, who had operated the intermediary company in the U.A.E., Khalid Mahmood, previously pled guilty to Iran embargo violations relating to other transactions, and provided substantial cooperation in the government's investigation. On January 19, 2006, he was sentenced to 16-1/2 months imprisonment.

The International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1706, and the Iranian Transaction Regulations, 50 C.F.R. Part 560, prohibit all exports to Iran of U.S.-origin commodities absent authorization in the form of an export license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") of the Department of the Treasury. They also make it unlawful to ship U.S.-origin products to a third country and for re-export to Iran without the necessary OFAC authorization. These prohibitions have been in place since 1995.

Defendant Keith Campbell, a District of Columbia man, also known as "George Dyson," and also as "The Tax Man," has pled guilty to charges in connection with a massive tax fraud conspiracy to fraudulently seek tax refunds, some of which were used to purchase drugs. (District Court)

FACTS: Campbell, 55, pleaded guilty today before the Honorable Colleen Kollar-Kotelly in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to the charges of Conspiracy to Defraud the Government with Respect to Claims and First Degree Theft. In pleading guilty, Campbell admitted that he masterminded a scheme to recruit individuals to file false federal, District of Columbia, and State of Maryland income tax returns in order to get income tax refunds to which they were not entitled. In total, it is alleged that Campbell and his co-

conspirators attempted to defraud the IRS of \$109,737.30, to defraud the District of Columbia of \$141,329.72, and to defraud the State of Maryland, Comptroller of the Currency of \$24,248.62 through the filing of numerous false returns.

"Filing false claims with the government is a serious criminal offense. Persons who do so should expect to be aggressively investigated and prosecuted," said U.S. Attorney Wainstein. "This case serves as a warning to those who might be tempted to cheat the IRS filing system."

Previously, four co-conspirators pleaded guilty to Conspiracy and Theft charges, and agreed to cooperate with the government in the case against Campbell. They are: Robert North, 45, of Oxon Hill, Maryland; Joseph Queen, 46, of the 2400 block of 14th Street, NW, Washington, D.C.; Clarence Williams, 34, of Landover, Maryland; and Eleanor Pope, 50, of League City, Texas.

"People who prepare false returns or claims for refund are cheating not just the government, but all law-abiding taxpayers," said Sherryl Hobbs Newman, Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia Office of Tax and Revenue. "This blatant disregard for the law will not be tolerated. We encourage the public to report tax fraud by calling our toll-free Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-800-380-3495 or by sending an email to Taxfraudhotline@dc.gov."

According to the government's evidence, Campbell and other individuals engaged in a conspiracy to file fraudulent federal, D.C., and Maryland income tax returns generating fraudulent refunds, which were split among the participants. The fraudulent income tax returns contained false Forms W-2, Wage and Tax Statements, which either reflected employers for whom the listed tax payer had never worked or falsely overstated wages earned and taxes supposedly withheld by a true employer. A motive for the crimes was to obtain money to purchase heroin.

Campbell and his co-conspirators and others acted to file false income tax returns in their own names and also allowed Campbell to use their home addresses and addresses over which they had access to the mail to have fraudulent refund checks mailed in the names of other individuals.

Campbell's sentencing is scheduled for October 20, 2006. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Campbell will serve 36 months in jail, and faces an order of restitution, a \$250,000.00 fine, and 3 years of supervised release.

Defendant Hanxiong Zhuang, 46 of Maryland, plead guilty in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to a one-count information charging conspiracy to commit copyright infringement on August 10, 2006. When sentenced, Zhuang faces up to five years of imprisonment. Sentencing for Zhuang is scheduled for November 2, 2006, before the Honorable Ellen S. Huvelle. (District Court)

FACTS: Hanxiong Zhuang, 46, of Maryland, pled guilty yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to a one-count information charging conspiracy to commit copyright infringement on August 10, 2006. When sentenced, Zhuang faces up to five years of

imprisonment. Sentencing for Zhuang is scheduled for November 2, 2006, before the Honorable Ellen S. Huvelle.

This is the fourth federal guilty plea in this investigation after search warrants were executed on November 10, 2005, at multiple locations linked to the sale of counterfeit goods, including luxury handbags and wallets, movies, sound recordings and sports jerseys in the largest crackdown to date on counterfeit goods in the District of Columbia.

Four different businesses, YY Enterprises, Inc., located at 1225 4th Street, NE, Washington, D.C., Wazir Marble and General Merchandise, located at 1329 4th Street, NE, Washington, D.C., ANA Wholesale, also known as Lai Wholesale Gifts, located at 1335 4th Street, NE, Washington, D.C., and Unlimited Inc., located at 1345-A 4th Street, NE, Washington, D.C., were searched. Today's guilty plea involved the owner of Lai Wholesale Gifts.

Defendant Stacy Pahl Henderson and Andy Aranas from Virginia have been charged by a Federal Grand Jury in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia with narcotics and firearms violations. (District Court)

FACTS: The seven-count indictment, which was returned on July 15, 2006, charges Henderson, 30, of Vinton, Virginia, and Aranas, 24, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, with multiple federal narcotics trafficking and firearms trafficking charges, including conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. Henderson was arraigned on the charges today. Aranas remains a fugitive from justice. If convicted of the charges, Henderson and Aranas face a mandatory minimum of 25 years in prison and a maximum of life.

The indictment alleges that between March 2004 through November 2004, within the District of Columbia and elsewhere, Henderson and Aranas conspired with other persons to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute pure methamphetamine or "Ice" and to illegally traffic firearms from the Commonwealth of Virginia and elsewhere into the District of Columbia. The investigation established that Henderson, Aranas and other persons, were allegedly responsible for trafficking and illegally obtaining more than 4500 grams of pure methamphetamine or Ice and a cache of firearms.

Defendant George "Shug" Wilson a leader of a major PCP drug trafficking organization, has been sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for his role in the organization's narcotics trafficking activities. On May 25, 2006, a federal court jury returned guilty verdicts against Wilson and other leaders of their drug trafficking organization, the "M Street Crew." (District Court)

FACTS: Wilson, 37, of Capitol Heights, Maryland, was sentenced today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Rosemary Collyer, who imposed two terms of life in prison without the possibility of parole for engaging in a narcotics conspiracy and participating in a racketeering enterprise, known as the "M Street Crew." Although the defendant faced statutory mandatory minimum sentences of at least 20 years in

prison under federal law, the Court followed the federal sentencing guidelines recommendation of life in prison without the possibility of parole. In imposing the sentence, the Court noted that the evidence at the three-month long trial characterized Wilson's role in the M Street Crew as that of a "street lieutenant," and ruled that the evidence established that he was one of the few leaders of the M Street Crew.

According to the government's investigation, the crew was a notorious phencyclidine (PCP) and ecstasy distribution ring that operated in the neighborhood of 18th and M Streets, NE, in the District of Columbia, between 2000 and 2004. In addition to finding Wilson guilty for his role in the organization's drug trafficking activities, the jury also found John L. Franklin, 33, of the 1300 block of Belmont Street, NW, Washington, D.C., guilty of being the principle administrator of a continuing criminal drug enterprise. His sentencing is scheduled for August 18, 2006. The jury verdict found that Franklin had managed, organized and supplied a drug enterprise that distributed more than 30 kilograms of liquid PCP (more than 12 gallons of liquid PCP). Franklin now faces an automatic sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. The jury also found him guilty of participating in a conspiracy to distribute PCP, ecstasy and crack cocaine, and of conspiracy to engage in a racketeering enterprise, the M Street Crew. These two additional offenses carry possible sentences of up to life in prison. He was also convicted of 23 separate drug trafficking offenses and numerous federal firearm counts.

The jury verdict also found several other leaders in the M Street Crew guilty of numerous charges, including William Dee Robinson, 30, of 1716 M Street NE, and Joseph Blackson, 29, the brother of John Franklin, and resident of 2723 Shipley Terrace, SE. Robinson is scheduled for sentencing on September 5th and Blackson for August 25th. Also found guilty was William "Mike" Simmons, 32, of 1226 G Street, NE. Evidence in the case characterized his role as that of a personal assistant to the leader, John L. Franklin. He faces sentencing on August 23rd. Under federal law and the federal sentencing guidelines, each of these defendants face the possibility life in prison.

At sentencing, prosecutors stated in pleadings and in court that this prosecution represented the culmination of a concerted effort to disrupt and dismantle the entire M Street Crew. Over 30 participants in the M Street Crew were arrested and charged in a massive coordinated effort on March 16, 2004. The prosecution remarked that the M Street Crew was a racketeering drug enterprise that had taken over the 18th and M Street neighborhood and turned it into their own private marketplace for drug trafficking.

The prosecution grew out of a long-term FBI/MPD alliance called the Safe Streets Task force that targeted violent drug trafficking gangs in the District of Columbia. The Safe Streets Initiative is funded in part by the Baltimore Washington High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area as well as the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.

Defendant Klye Bartolain, 25 of old Alexandria, Virginia pled guilty in U.S. District Court before the Honorable Gladys Kessler to one count of traveling in interstate commerce with the intent to have sex with a minor. Bartolain will be sentenced on November 14, 2006. He faces a maximum of 30 years in prison under the statute and a

likely sentence of 37 to 46 months of imprisonment under the federal sentencing guidelines. (District Court)

FACTS: According to the government's factual proffer, between July 11, 2006 and July 14, 2006, Bartolain, while inside his house in Alexandria, Virginia, entered a "romance" public chat-room for Washington, D.C. Bartolain initiated a chat with an individual who identified herself as a 13-year-old girl residing in Washington, D.C. The girl, in fact, was a D.C. Metropolitan Police Department detective posing as a 13-year-old child. Bartolain identified himself to the "child" as a 25-year-old man who resided in Alexandria, Virginia. Bartolain then sent the "child" a picture of himself in full military uniform. He began talking to the "child" about sex, expressing his desire to have sexual contact with the "child." On July 14, 2006, Bartolain told the "child" that he would meet her at her residence at 4:00 in the afternoon on that day. At approximately 6:00 p.m., Bartolain arrived at the Northeast Washington, D.C. address described by the "child" as her home address. As Bartolain drove away from the house, he was arrested by members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Youth Division.

Defendant Melvin George 37, of Southeast District of Columbia man was found guilty yesterday by a federal jury in the District of Columbia of one count of Bank Robbery. The trial was conducted before the Honorable Ricardo M. Urbina, who is scheduled to sentence the defendant on November 14, 2006. George faces a statutory penalty of up to 20 years of imprisonment. (District Court)

FACTS: The evidence presented at trial established that on December 8, 2005, Melvin George entered a branch of the Citibank, located at 1749-1/2 Columbia Road, NW, Washington, D.C., at approximately 1 p.m. He handed the teller a note that said: "\$10,000 or everyone will be shot." Although no weapon was visible, the teller handed George \$2,095 and he left the bank.

George went to his sister's apartment in Southeast Washington, D.C., and she saw him counting the money. The sister was angry and alarmed that George had returned to her apartment after robbing the bank. Over the next several weeks, George's sister was instrumental in providing the police with information -- including identifying her brother as the robber in the bank's surveillance video -- and physical evidence linking George to the robbery -- including a multi-colored "kufi," a type of hat that he wore during the robbery, and which was visible in the bank surveillance video.

Defendant John L. Franklin, 33, of the 1300 block of Belmont Street, NW, Washington, D.C., was sentenced today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Rosemary Collyer to multiple periods of life in prison without the possibility of parole and an additional 30 years consecutively imposed for various federal firearm violations. Franklin was found guilty of leading the "M Street Crew" and violating the federal drug king-pin statute. Yesterday, Judge Collyer sentenced his conspirator, George "Shug" Wilson, 37, of Capitol Heights, Maryland, to two terms of life in prison without the possibility of parole. (District Court)

FACTS: Judge Collyer imposed a total of five life sentences against Franklin stemming from his conviction for being the principle administrator of a continuing criminal enterprise, the

so-called federal drug king-pin statute. The king-pin statute was enacted by Congress to require sentencing judges to impose a mandatory sentence of life without the possibility of parole for those individuals who have been found to have led particularly large drug trafficking organizations. Franklin was also convicted for engaging in a narcotics trafficking conspiracy and for participating in a racketeering enterprise, known as the “M Street Crew.” He received two other life sentences for convictions relating to distributions of large quantities of liquid PCP (phencyclidine) and cocaine base, also known as crack. In addition to the sentences of life in prison, the Court imposed sentences totaling another 758 years for 52 other related drug trafficking, firearms, and telecommunications offenses. Finally, the Court imposed a 30-year sentence to be served consecutively to the life sentences for convictions involving the use of firearms in aid of drug trafficking offenses.

According to the government’s investigation, the M Street crew was a notorious phencyclidine (PCP) and ecstasy distribution ring that operated in the neighborhood of 18th and M Streets, NE, in the District of Columbia, between 2000 and 2004. After hearing evidence in the three-month long trial, the jury found that Franklin had managed, organized and supplied a drug enterprise that distributed more than 30 kilograms (more than 12 gallons) of liquid PCP. Evidence at trial established that as leader of the M Street Crew, John Franklin’s PCP and ecstasy distribution activity generated profits for him alone of \$15,000 to \$30,000 per week during 2002 and 2003.

The jury also convicted several other leaders in the M Street Crew, including William Dee Robinson, 30, of 1716 M Street NE, and Joseph Blackson, 29, the brother of John Franklin, and resident of 2723 Shipley Terrace, SE. They are scheduled for sentencing on September 5th and August 25th, respectively. Also convicted was William “Mike” Simmons, 32, of 1226 G Street, NE. Evidence in the case characterized his role as that of a personal assistant to the leader, John L. Franklin. He faces sentencing on August 23rd. Under federal law and the federal sentencing guidelines, each of these defendants face the possibility life in prison.

At sentencing, prosecutors stated in pleadings and in court that this prosecution represented the culmination of a concerted effort to disrupt and dismantle the entire M Street Crew. Over 30 participants in the M Street Crew were arrested and charged in a massive coordinated effort on March 16, 2004. The prosecution remarked that the M Street Crew was a racketeering drug enterprise that had taken over the 18th and M Street neighborhood and turned it into their own private marketplace for drug trafficking.

The prosecution grew out of a long-term FBI/MPD alliance called the Safe Streets Task force that targeted violent drug trafficking gangs in the District of Columbia. The Safe Streets Initiative is funded in part by the Baltimore Washington High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area as well as the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.

Defendant Natwan E. Logan, a former Metropolitan Police Department officer, has pled guilty in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to conspiracy to commit bank fraud. The plea occurred before U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler. Logan is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Kessler on November 13, 2006. He faces up to 30 years

in prison and a \$1,000,000 fine pursuant to the statute and a likely sentence of 21-27 months in prison under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines. (District Court)

FACTS: During today's plea hearing, Logan, 32, of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, admitted to a scheme in which he and coconspirators deposited or attempted to deposit nearly \$1,000,000 in counterfeit checks at banks in Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Las Vegas, Nevada.

Logan was employed by the Metropolitan Police Department as an officer for approximately six years until his resignation earlier this year. During the course of the conspiracy, which Logan admitted in today's plea hearing began in May 2004, Logan helped devise a scheme in which counterfeit checks would be negotiated by coconspirators at various banks. The amounts of the checks Logan and his coconspirators attempted to negotiate ranged in amounts from \$1,985 to \$500,000. In one transaction in March 2005, Logan traveled to Las Vegas to meet with coconspirators, where they attempted to negotiate a \$500,000 check at a Bank of America branch.

Defendant Richard Killett, 35, of the unit block of Hawaii Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C., was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in the District of Columbia before the Honorable Judge Rosemary M. Collyer. During the prior plea hearing, Killett admitted to making the bribe payments to a DMV employee in return for the DMV employee issuing drivers' licenses to individuals who otherwise would have trouble obtaining them through the normal, legal process. Judge Collyer sentenced Killett to three years of probation, conditions of which included 180 days of home confinement and electronic monitoring. (District Court)

FACTS: According to the government's evidence presented at the guilty plea, with which Killett agreed, in about late November of 2005, Killett met with a person he knew worked at the DMV. Killett discussed with the DMV employee the idea of bringing to the DMV employee individuals who otherwise would have difficulties obtaining DMV drivers' licenses, or endorsements or upgrades to pre-existing licenses, and who, through, Killett, would pay money to the DMV employee in return for the issuance of drivers' licenses, endorsements or upgrades. Killett told the DMV employee that he needed a number of drivers' licenses applications.

Thereafter, Killett told a number of individuals that he had a contact at DMV who could get them drivers' licenses, endorsements or upgrades for a payment of money beyond that for the normal fee for such items.

On Friday, December 16, 2005, Killett met with the DMV employee near the main DMV office at 301 C Street, NW. At that time, Killett gave the DMV employee \$300 as a partial payment for the production of drivers' licenses, endorsements or upgrades for individuals Killett had solicited.

On Saturday, December 17, 2005, Killett met with approximately six to eight individuals he had solicited to obtain drivers' licenses, or endorsements or upgrades to previously issued licenses. Per prior arrangement with Killett, these individuals met Killett outside the main DMV

office and the individuals, with one exception -- an individual who agreed to give the money to Killett on a later occasion -- gave Killett \$500 each for the purpose of obtaining the respective license, endorsement or upgrade. Killett planned to give \$300 to \$350 from each individual to the DMV employee and keep the remaining amount for his role in this scheme.

Killett and the individuals seeking drivers' licenses, endorsements or upgrades then entered the DMV office and the individuals provided their completed applications to the DMV employee. Killett provided the DMV employee with \$3,000 from the money he had received or had been promised by the individuals seeking drivers' licenses, endorsements or upgrades, and he kept \$700 for himself for his services. The DMV employee then took the individuals' photographs.

Fortunately, the arrival of law enforcement officials prevented these individuals that day from obtaining the drivers' licenses, endorsements or upgrades they sought. The law enforcement officials took a statement from Killett in which he admitted the above-described bribery scheme. Killett admitted that he knew some of the individuals for whom he acted as a middle-man and that he knew that they could not, or would not, obtain the drivers' licenses, endorsements or upgrades in a lawful manner and they sought his assistance to circumvent the DMV procedures. For example, he was told that one of his "customers" could not obtain a driver's license because she had failed the DMV test four times. Other individuals had indicated that they wanted licenses which indicated that they were authorized to operate motorcycles or commercial trucks.

The investigation into this scheme is ongoing.

Defendant Timothy Jennings, 49, of Forestville, Maryland, is a former Metro Transit bus driver, who wore Metro uniform clothing in three of the bank robberies, committed in December of 2005 and the first two months of 2006. The plea was entered yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Reggie B. Walton, who scheduled sentencing for November 15, 2006. Jennings faces a maximum term of 20 years in prison for each robbery and a fine of up to \$250,000. (District Court)

FACTS: The spree began on December 8, 2005, and ended on February 15, 2006, one day before Jennings's arrest by the Washington Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Jennings was identified when FBI agents took bank surveillance photos in which Jennings was wearing his Metro uniform to Metro administrative personnel. Jennings was recognized as a former bus driver who had been fired. Once the name was obtained from Metro, the FBI went to parole authorities and discovered that Jennings had a criminal history and fingerprints in the law enforcement databases. Jennings' fingerprints were matched to a demand note recovered from one of the banks. In addition, the FBI recovered from Jennings' home the uniforms and two sets of eyeglasses observed in the surveillance photographs; note paper that appeared to be similar to that used to produce demand notes; and sums of money consistent with the denominations taken from the banks.

According to the government's statement of facts, filed in connection with the guilty plea, and the admissions made during the plea proceedings today, Jennings committed the following robberies:

- 1) December 8, 2005 robbery of the SunTrust Bank, located at 3300 Donnell Drive, in Forestville, Maryland, in which \$1,665 was taken;
- 2) December 16, 2005 robbery of the Wachovia Bank, located at 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, in Washington, D.C., in which \$800 was taken;
- 3) December 19, 2005 robbery of the Wachovia Bank, located at 5720 Silver Hill Road, in District Heights, Maryland, in which \$1,710 was taken;
- 4) January 19, 2006 robbery of the Wachovia Bank, located at 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, in Washington, D.C., in which \$2,440 was taken;
- 5) February 6, 2006 robbery of the Wachovia Bank, located at 801 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, in Washington, D.C., in which \$6,684 was taken; and
- 6) February 15, 2006 robbery of the M&T Bank branch, located in Clinton, Maryland, in which \$2,948 was taken.

Defendant William Simmons, 32, of the 1200 block of G Street, NE, Washington, D.C., was sentenced today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Rosemary Collyer to a term of 22 years in prison for engaging in a narcotics trafficking and a racketeering conspiracy. The Court also imposed concurrent sentences of 22 years without parole for three convictions of distribution of liquid phencyclidine (PCP). Evidence at trial and at sentencing characterized Simmons' role in the conspiracy as a personal assistant to the convicted drug king-pin and leader, John L. Franklin. On May 25, 2006, Simmons was convicted after a three-month long jury trial along with four other leaders of a criminal racketeering drug distribution organization known as the "M Street Crew." (District Court)

FACTS: On August 18, Judge Collyer sentenced John L. Franklin, 33, formerly of 1300 block Belmont Street, NW, Washington, D.C., to multiple periods of life in prison without the possibility of parole and an additional 30 years consecutively imposed for various federal firearm violations. Franklin had been convicted by a jury of leading the "M Street Crew" and violating the federal drug king-pin statute. Earlier, on August 17, Judge Collyer sentenced a convicted coconspirator, George "Shug" Wilson, 37 of Capitol Heights, Maryland, to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

On May 25, 2006, a federal jury returned guilty verdicts against Franklin, Wilson, Simmons, and two other leaders of the M Street Crew, Joseph Blackson and William "Dee" Robinson. The crew conducted a notorious phencyclidine (PCP) and ecstasy distribution ring that operated in the neighborhood of 18th and M Streets, NE, between 2000 and 2004. The jury found that Franklin had managed, organized and supplied a drug enterprise that distributed more

that 30 kilograms (more than 12 gallons) of liquid PCP. Evidence at trial established that as leader of the M Street Crew, Franklin's PCP and ecstasy distribution activity generated profits for him alone of \$15,000 to \$30,000 per week during 2002 and 2003.

Two other leaders in the M Street Crew, William Dee Robinson, 30, of the 1700 block of M Street, NE, and Joseph Blackson, 29, the brother of John Franklin, and resident of the block of 2723 Shipley Terrace, SE, are scheduled for sentencing on September 5 and the week of August 28, respectively. Under federal law and the federal sentencing guidelines, each of these defendants also face the possibility life in prison.

At sentencing, prosecutors stated in pleadings and in court that this prosecution represented the culmination of a concerted effort to disrupt and dismantle the entire M Street Crew. Over 30 participants in the M Street Crew were arrested and charged in a massive coordinated effort on March 16, 2004. The prosecution remarked that the M Street Crew was a racketeering drug enterprise that had taken over the 18th and M Street neighborhood and turned it into their own private marketplace for drug trafficking.

The prosecution grew out of a long-term FBI/MPD alliance called the Safe Streets Task force that targeted violent drug trafficking gangs in the District of Columbia. The Safe Streets Initiative is funded in part by the Baltimore Washington High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area as well as the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.

A three-count, 22-page indictment, which was returned under seal on August 18, 2006, by a federal grand jury in the District of Columbia was unsealed today. Michael O'Keefe, Sr., 59, a 22-year veteran of the State Department who was employed at the U.S. Consulate in Toronto, Canada, as the Deputy Non-Immigrant Visa Chief, was arrested in the District of Columbia yesterday by Diplomatic Security Special Agents. He appeared today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Alan Kay. Agrawal, who is the Chief Executive Officer of STS Jewels, Inc., an international manufacturer and distributor of semi-precious gems with purported offices in New York, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Japan, India, Dubai and Tanzania, remains at large. (District Court)

FACTS: If convicted on the charges, O'Keefe and Agrawal face between 5 and 15 years in prison, and a fine of not more than \$250,000. Under the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, O'Keefe faces between 41 and 51 months in prison and Agrawal faces between 27 and 33 months of imprisonment.

The indictment charges that from on or before February 1, 2004, through August 18, 2006, in Toronto, Canada, New York, Las Vegas and elsewhere, O'Keefe, being a public official, corruptly conspired and agreed to seek, receive and accept, and Sunil Agrawal corruptly conspired and agreed to give and offer things of value to influence Michael John O'Keefe in the performance of official acts and to induce O'Keefe to act and fail to act in violation of his official duties. Specifically, the indictment alleges that Agrawal gave O'Keefe round trip airline tickets for O'Keefe and two exotic dancers between Toronto and Las Vegas; hotel accommodations and expenses in New York and Las Vegas for O'Keefe and two exotic dancers; jewelry; expensive meals; entertainment; and a job reference. In return, O'Keefe allegedly

scheduled expedited visa interview appointments and issued visas to 21 persons sponsored by Agrawal to benefit Agrawal and his business.

“U.S. Consular Officials are on the front line of our border protection,” stated U.S. Attorney Wainstein. “A consular official who violates the rules for personal gain not only erodes public trust in our visa system, but seriously jeopardizes our national security.”

“The integrity of the passport and visa systems must be protected. Diplomatic Security considers any violations of these systems to be violations of the public trust,” said U.S. Department of State Security Service Director Morton.

Defendant Jeffrey W. Dublin, 38, and Earl A. Thompson, 25, were both found guilty today by a D.C. Superior Court jury of Second Degree Burglary while Armed, two counts of Armed Robbery, two counts of Kidnapping while Armed, five counts of Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Crime of Violence, one count of Possession of an Unregistered Firearm, one count of Unlawful Possession of Ammunition. In addition, the jury found Thompson guilty of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon – Stun Gun, and found Dublin guilty of Assault and Carrying a Pistol without a License. The convictions stem from the defendants’ actions in robbing a hair braiding salon, Natural Hair Braiding, at 5524 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. The defendants are currently scheduled for sentencing before the Honorable Hiram Puig-Lugo, D.C. Superior Court Judge, on October 27, 2006. Both defendants face up to more than 200 years of imprisonment. (District Court)

FACTS: The evidence presented at trial showed that on February 8, 2006, at a little before 10:45 a.m., the defendants entered the Natural Hair Braiding salon, asking about getting their hair braided. Two women were present inside of the salon – one woman who was working and another woman, eight months pregnant, who was having her hair braided. Dublin produced a .45 caliber revolver and Thompson produced a “Thunder Blaster” stun gun. The defendants ordered the two women into the back of the establishment and robbed them of their personal possessions as well as items from the store. During the course of the incident, Thompson took one of the women into a back office space and ordered her to strip completely naked. Once the woman was naked, Thompson struck her repeatedly with the stun gun all over her body and her face.

The defendants put the customer into a bathroom where she was able to make a phone call from her cellular phone to the police. Within minutes, officers of the Metropolitan Police Department were on the scene. MPD Officers Edward Cosey, Wilbert Davis and others located and were able to stop and arrest Thompson after a chase outside of the salon. In locations where Thompson had ran, Crime Scene and Search Officers found items from the robbery and the stun gun. Dublin could not be found in the area for about 30 minutes, during which police had set up a perimeter around the block which included the salon. Canine officers arrived on the scene to allow canines to conduct a search. The canines located Dublin hiding in the back of a house in the block. Canine units also located items from the robbery and a .45 caliber revolver near where Dublin was found, and those items were recovered by the Crime Scene Search Officers.

Defendant Jeffrey Alan Rothschild, 59 year old man, who has no fixed address, pled guilty today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to a three-count information charging bank fraud, mail fraud and money laundering from September to December of 2005. When sentenced, Rothschild faces up to 30 years of imprisonment on the bank fraud count; 30 years on the mail fraud count; and 20 years on the money laundering count. Under the federal sentencing guidelines, he faces between 84 and 105 months in prison. Sentencing for Rothschild is scheduled for December 1, 2006, before the Honorable Colleen Kollar-Kotelly. (District Court)

FACTS: Starting in early September 2005, FEMA made available money transfers of \$2,000 to victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Eligible parties could apply for emergency relief funds in person, by calling a toll-free phone number, or on-line by providing, among other information, a name, a Social Security number, and an address of a location affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita. Following this process, an applicant received \$2,000 in the form of a check, electronic transfer, or debit card.

According to the government's evidence, between about September 13, 2005 and December 31, 2005, Rothschild applied for emergency FEMA funds using the names, birth dates, and Social Security numbers of other individuals, none of whom had given him permission to apply for such benefits on their behalf. Rothschild obtained most of this information through the Martindale-Hubbe legal directory and various other public databases, as well as through his previous job at a construction company. Rothschild admitted that on the portion of the application that asked for the address of a property damaged by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita, he would fill in addresses that he found on the Internet or that he made up.

As a result of this scheme, FEMA mailed 38 United States Treasury checks, made out to the individuals Rothschild specified, to motels where Rothschild was staying or private mailboxes that Rothschild had rented in the names of other individuals, using false identification in the names of those individuals, but bearing his own photograph. Rothschild then forged the signatures of the payees and deposited the checks into bank accounts that he had opened in the names of other people without their permission, but that he controlled. In particular, Rothschild opened an account at an E*Trade Financial Corporation Branch in Northwest Washington, D.C., into which he deposited five of the fraudulently obtained checks, intending to withdraw the money and convert it to his own use at a later date. In addition, Rothschild submitted 14 applications, including one in his alias, Jeffrey Alan Zahler, for which he did not receive a check.

Rothschild also admitted engaging in a number of other fraudulent schemes, including check kiting and credit card fraud in the District of Columbia, Virginia, New York, Florida, and elsewhere. After Rothschild was arrested, investigators found identification documents in the names of eight other real people, but bearing Rothschild's photograph, in his possession.